

LOBARIA QUERCIZANS MICHX. ON THE COASTAL PLAIN  
AND PIEDMONT PLATEAU IN MARYLAND AND VIRGINIA

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In 1957, Hale<sup>1/</sup> reviewed our knowledge regarding the distribution of the Lobaria amplissima-L. quercizans complex in Europe and North America, stating that "L. quercizans in North America, has a typical Appalachian-Great Lakes distribution pattern, where it is most abundant in mature conifer-hardwood forests with Lobaria pulmonaria." His accompanying map indicates localities from Newfoundland and Nova Scotia, through New England and Pennsylvania into the Blue Ridge region of Maryland, Virginia, North Carolina, South Carolina into Georgia and Alabama; then westward. There are no localities indicated for regions east or south of the Fall Line (geological divide between the Piedmont Plateau and the Coastal Plain).

The following specimens of Lobaria quercizans Michx. represent collections of this species from the Coastal Plain areas of Maryland, the Delmarva Peninsula and Tidewater Virginia, and from the outer areas of the Piedmont Plateau in Maryland and Virginia.

Maryland: Anne Arundel Co.: Base of tree trunk, Bent Oak near Benfield, near Head of Severn River. Dec. 16, 1915. C.C. Plitt (Reed Herb.). In this region is also found one of the state's rare areas for the Climbing Fern (Lygodium palmatum (Bernh.) Sw.) and Schweinitzia (Monotropis odorata Ell.). Lobaria pulmonaria (L.) Hoffm. was also collected near here: On tree trunk between Benfield and Odenton. Mar. 24, 1906. C.C. Plitt 37 (USNFC and Reed Herb.). Baltimore Co.: On base of tree, Middle River Neck. Dec. 30, 1905. C.C. Plitt. (USNFC); on tree in ravine near Camp Run. Oct. 3, 1905. C.C. Plitt 1 (USNFC). This area is northeast of Baltimore, very near the Chesapeake Bay. Middle River is a tidal river on the Coastal Plain of Baltimore County, the river lying between the Gunpowder River and the Patapsco River. Dorchester Co.: Low woods along Rt. US #50, on oak, just N of Salem. April 12, 1963. C.F. Reed 61785. This area lies just west of the Nanticoke River.

Virginia: Nansemond Co.: At base of oaks in low woods, Rt. 632, off Rt. US #460, near Myrtle. April 16, 1963. C.F. Reed 61924. This area is just west of the Dismal Swamp.

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<sup>1/</sup> Hale, Mason E., Jr. Bryologist 60(1): 35-39, map. 1957.

On the edge of the Piedmont Plateau, the following specimens of Lobaria quercizans Michx. and Lobaria pulmonaria (L.) Hoffm. may be recorded.

Maryland: Baltimore Co.: Lobaria quercizans, on trunk of sycamore tree, along Gunpowder Falls. July 16, 1910. C.C.Plitt (Reed Herb.). Actually, the Coastal soils extend from the Gunpowder River along the confluence of the Little and Big Gunpowder Falls. Above the Fall Line, the slopes of the Gunpowders are Piedmont, but the areas along the "falls" have been the pathways for many Coastal species to find their way up to the Piedmont, near Towson (some 8 to 10 miles, and over 400 ft. elevation, to the west). By this same route, some Piedmont flora has come down the Gunpowder Falls nearly to the Gunpowder River, as Pellaea atropurpurea (L.) Link, for example. Lobaria pulmonaria, on tree trunk on road to Dolfields. Aug. 5, 1911. C.C.Plitt (USNFC and Reed Herb.). This area is to the northwest of Baltimore City, not too far from the Patapsco River and the Soldiers Delight area.

Virginia: Charlotte Co.: Lobaria pulmonaria, on hickory, 2 mi. W of Keysville, Virginia Rt. #40. Oct. 27, 1962. C.F.Reed 59722.

The specimens cited above have been identified or verified by Dr. Mason Hale. They extend our known range for these species east and southward on to the Coastal Plain in Maryland and Virginia. Because there are so few specimens from these regions, it seems valuable to record them in the hopes these species will be looked for more deligently. In my studies of the Flora of Delmarva and Tidewater Virginia, these lichens add another group of species usually found on the Piedmont Plateau or on the Appalachians which have distributions on the Coastal Plain. Over 450 species of plants may now be recorded from isolated 'islands' on the Coastal Plain which are otherwise known to be Piedmont and Appalachian species.